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APR 13 2006

501.40830VX1 / 210000485US2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: HIROI, et al.

Serial No.: 09/986,577

Filed: November 9, 2001

For: PATTERN INSPECTION METHOD AND APPARATUS

Group: 2625

Examiner: J. Strege

Conf. No.: 5835

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Commissioner For Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 13, 2006

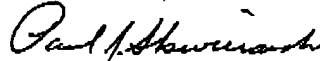
Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants hereby respectfully petition for an extension of time to permit filing a response within the first month subsequent to expiration of the shortened statutory period set in the outstanding Office Action mailed December 13, 2005. A Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$120.00 to cover the required fee for the requested extension of time is attached hereto.

It is respectfully requested that any shortage in the fee be charged to the account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 501.40830VX1).

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



Paul J. Skwierawski

Registration No. 32,173

PJS/slk

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